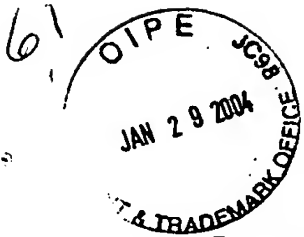


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Patent
Attorney's Docket No. 033228-019

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

Morihiro NOMURA et al.

Application No.: 10/042,309

Filed: January 11, 2002

For: VEHICLE DOOR HANDLE DEVICE

**REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116
- EXPEDITED PROCEDURE -
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3600**

Group Art Unit: 3677

Examiner: D. Melwani

Confirmation No.: 4265

AMENDMENT/REPLY TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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FEB 02 2004

GROUP 3600

Sir:

Enclosed is a reply for the above-identified patent application.

- ☐ A Petition for Extension of Time is also enclosed.
- ☐ A Terminal Disclaimer and the ☐ \$55.00 (2814) ☐ \$110.00 (1814) fee due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.20(d) are also enclosed.
- ☐ Also enclosed is/are _____.
- ☐ Small entity status is hereby claimed.
- ☐ Applicant(s) requests continued examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 and enclose the ☐ \$385.00 (2801) ☐ \$770.00 (1801) fee due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e).
- ☐ Applicant(s) requests that any previously unentered after final amendments not be entered. Continued examination is requested based on the enclosed documents identified above.
- ☐ Applicant(s) previously submitted _____, on _____, for which continued examination is requested.
- ☐ Applicant(s) requests suspension of action by the Office until at least _____, which does not exceed three months from the filing of this RCE, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c). The required fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) is enclosed.
- ☐ A Request for Entry and Consideration of Submission under 37 C.F.R. § 1.129(a) (1809/2809) is also enclosed.

☒ No additional claim fee is required.

☐ An additional claim fee is required, and is calculated as shown below:

AMENDED CLAIMS					
	NO. OF CLAIMS	HIGHEST NO. OF CLAIMS PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	EXTRA CLAIMS	RATE	ADD'L FEE
Total Claims	21	MINUS 21 =	0	× \$18.00 (1202) =	0.00
Independent Claims	3	MINUS 3 =	0	× \$86.00 (1201) =	0.00
If Amendment adds multiple dependent claims, add \$290.00 (1203)					0.00
Total Claim Amendment Fee					0.00
If small entity status is claimed, subtract 50% of Total Claim Amendment Fee					0.00
TOTAL ADDITIONAL CLAIM FEE DUE FOR THIS AMENDMENT					0.00

☐ A total fee in the amount of \$_____ is enclosed.

☐ Charge \$_____ to Deposit Account No. 02-4800.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any appropriate fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16, 1.17, 1.20(d) and 1.21 that may be required by this paper, and to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 02-4800. This paper is submitted in duplicate.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

Date: January 29, 2004

By: Matthew L. Schneider
Matthew L. Schneider
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Patent
Attorney's Docket No. 033228-019

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

Morihito NOMURA et al.

Application No.: 10/042,309

Filed: January 11, 2002

For: VEHICLE DOOR HANDLE DEVICE

) **REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116**
) **- EXPEDITED PROCEDURE -**
) **TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3600**

) Group Art Unit: 3677

) Examiner: D. Melwani

) Confirmation No.: 4265

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

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Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

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GROUP 3600

Sir:

In response to the Official Action dated October 29, 2003, kindly amend the application identified above in the following manner.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the claim summary document which begins on page two of this paper.

Remarks begin on page nine of this paper.